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REMARKS

In response to the Official Office Action of March 9, 2006 the Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider the above referenced application in light of the corrections to the previously submitted non-compliant amendment. The Applicants have added appropriate status identifiers to each claim, therefore, respectfully submit that the amendment is now in compliance.

As indicated by the Examiner and as acknowledged by the Applicants claims 26, 27, 32-38 and 41-46 remain pending in this application. Claims 1-25, 28-31, 39, 40 and 47-60 have been cancelled via this paper. Claim 26 has been amended via this paper to more clearly define the invention. It should be understood that all claims and claim limitations should be construed as including all equivalent structure and function within the respective scope of protection. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his efforts with regard to the Official Office Action, dated November 10, 2005, related to the above referenced application. The Applicants also wish to express appreciation for the timeliness of the Official Office Action and to thank the Examiner for his courtesy extended to Applicants' representative Mr. James E. Shultz Jr. during a personal interview held on February 7, 2006. The substance of this personal interview is memorialized in the Examiner's interview summary, as well as, herein.

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Turning to paragraph 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 26-27, 33, 35-38, 41 and 44-46 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Holtz et al. (U.S. Patent 6,552,342). As discussed during the personal interview, the Applicants respectfully submit that Holtz et al. does not teach, suggest or imply a vehicular vision system, comprising: an image sensor and a light source, said light source is configured to emit light rays in the non-visible spectrum to illuminate objects within a scene external to a controlled vehicle beyond an exterior surface of a windshield, wherein said light source is configured to operate in synchronous relationship with acquisition of images from said image sensor, the vision system being capable of distinguishing vehicular light source from non-vehicular light sources as recited in claim 26 of the present application. In that claims 27, 33, 35-38, 41 and 44-46 depend from claim 26, the Applicants submit that claims 26-27, 33, 35-38, 41 and 44-46 are in condition for allowance over Holtz et al.

Turning to paragraph 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 32, 34 and 42-43 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Holtz et al. In that claims 32, 34 and 42-43 depend from claim 26 and for at least the reasons stated above, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 32, 34 and 42-43 are in condition for allowance over Holtz et al.

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Applicants respectfully submit that claims 26-27, 32-38 and 41-46 are in condition for allowance. No new subject matter has been added via the amendments to the claims presented in this paper. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider this case. The Applicants submit that this case is now in condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please contact the undersigned should additional information be required.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By: Gentex Corporation

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Date

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